

# MENOMINEE NATION NEWS

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## Man held in custody for attempted murder of a Sheriff Deputy

Francisco Alegria  
Menominee Nation News

A 21 year old man turned himself in to the Green Bay Police Department and was arrested for attempted murder of a Menominee County Sheriff's Deputy, Louis Moses. The shooting took place in Keshena, WI on the Menominee Indian Reservation. The man had been identified as Peter J. Seymour of Green Bay.

See **SHOOTING** pg.5

## Green Bay man charged in fatal shooting

Roberta Penass  
Menominee Nation News

Cody Skinkis, 19 of Green Bay was arrested for first-degree intentional homicide and attempted first-degree intentional homicide for the death of David LaCount, 21 and wounding Sam Warpinski, 21, on May 21, 2005. David and Sam were roommates at an apartment on the east side of Green Bay.

See **SKINKIS** pg.5

## 16th Annual Gathering of the Warriors Powwow



F.Alegria/Menominee Nation News

The 1st day of the 16th Annual Gathering of Warriors Pow-wow began with the raising of the Veteran's flags.

Francisco Alegria  
Menominee Nation News

The 16th Annual Gathering of Warriors Powwow was held May 20th-22nd at the Woodland Bowl in Keshena, WI. This year the Warrior's Powwow was dedicated to all the Menominee men and women who served their country in Iraq and Afghanistan. They are honorably known as the "Freedom Fighters."

The head dancers were Vannie

Wheelock and Tim McGregor. Head Veterans Dancer was Albany Potts. The M.C's for the weekend were Mark Denning and Dan King. Stan Latender served as the arena director.

Friday night's events included the flag raising ceremony, an honoring ceremony and a tribute to all Native American veterans by a nationally known recording artist.

The Menominee Woodland Bowl was a spectacular scene, an awesome deep

green, in the white pines and grass as each fallen veteran flags started to come in. Family member after family member brought their family flag to be honored. There were so many American flags that once draped the caskets of loved ones, that there were not enough flag poles for each flag.

See **POWWOW** pg.4

## Menominee celebrates MIHS Class of 2005

Francisco Alegria  
Menominee Nation News

On Friday, May 27th the Menominee Indian High School held the Class of 2005 Graduation Ceremony. The teachers of Menominee Indian High School marched into the theatre and then the Class of 2005, which was led by senior student Gordon Alegria, who carried the High School Eagle Feather Staff. Smiles, cheers, applause and tears were all apart of the opening.

The master of ceremonies was high school principal, Mr. Chuck Raasch. As Mr. Raasch gave his opening greeting he stated, "Welcome to the 29th Menominee Indian High School Graduation Ceremony, the Class of 2005." Mr. Raasch recognized school board members, staff and teachers who were present. He gave a special thank you to senior class advisors; Lisa Waukau and Amy Kasten. Mr. Raasch commented, "I'd like to acknowledge



F.Alegria/Menominee Nation News

Menominee Indian High School Class of 2005!

two staff people from the high school who will be retiring this year. They are Librarian Ms. Faye Waupochick who has served this district for 29 years and Mr. Jerry See, he was in the service of the district for 21 years."

Mr. Ron Corn Jr. gave some opening thoughts and said a prayer in the

Menominee Language for the graduates. Mr. Corn said, "The main thing I want to ask the Creator is to take care of these young men and women who are going on in their lives."

Mr. Wesley Martin the Menominee  
See **CLASS OF '05** pg.14

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## **Powwow continued from front page**

The Veterans of the Menominee Nation started unfolding the flags so they could hold them up in the bowl for the ceremony.

As the flag raising ceremony started the host drum sang the Native American Flag Song. Slowly the flags were raised, by only the veterans. It was very solemn as our fallen veterans were being honored. The Menominee Veterans commander ordered attention and a rendition of Taps was played. All of the Menominee Veterans who have passed away were greatly honored.

The memorial veteran flags were as follows: Richard Herrera, Coast Guard, Army & Air Force, W.W.II and Korea, Myron M. Kelley/Delores Koszqrek, U.S. Navy, Army, W.W.II and Korea, Myron and Emmerine Grignon, U.S. Army and U.S. Navy both W.W.II, Donald Kinepoway, U.S. Army, W.W.II, Alex Waupoose Jr., U.S. Army, Korea, Martin Pamonicutt, U.S. Army, W.W.II, Raymond Tucker, U.S. Navy, Korea, Dewey Thunder Sr, U.S. Army, W.W.II & Korea, Francis Tepiew, U.S. Navy, W.W.II, Henry M. Dodge, U.S. Navy, W.W.I, Edmund Pocan, U.S. Army, Korea, George Pyawasit, U.S. Army, W.W.II, Norbert Lawe, U.S. Army, W.W.II, Melvin Lyons Sr. Viet Nam, Gordon Dickie Sr., U.S. Navy, W.W.II, Ralph Richmond, Harvey Richmond, Kenote, John Fish, Newton.

The flag that hangs over the dance arena in the bowl is "Big John." This is the flag of the late John Hawpetoss. His family donated the huge flag to the Veterans of the Menominee Nation so it can be displayed yearly at the Menominee Nation Veterans Pow-Pow. Before the start of the week-end events, Native veteran and elder, Albany Potts blessed the grounds.

Lorrie Church, from Saskatchewan, Canada, and Lon Swedberg, from Shawano, Wisconsin were both honored Friday night. They were honored for contributions to the community and to Native American Veterans. They were presented with a Pendleton blanket on behalf of the Veterans of the Menominee Nation.

Lorrie, who is Native, and a Nashville recording artist, spent the day performing throughout the schools on the Menominee Indian Reservation. In Allan Caldwell's introduction he said, "She has recorded a c.d. "Dream Chaser" and is making a music video to accompany it. They are both dedicated to all Native American Veterans. This will be for sale next April. Lorrie uses her music and talents and dedication to the welfare of American Indian Veterans. 100% of the sales of this international c.d. will go toward setting up a national Native American monument. The monument will honor our ancestors, so they can take their rightful place in history. Historically we have always fought for freedom. Lori has a special presentation today, a sample of what the c.d.'s all about."

Before Lorrie began, she said, "I am very, very honored to be here. I was in awe, and humbled to be amongst all of you. I want to share a song for a fallen soldier." Lorrie sang "Amazing Grace" after the conclusion she presented each veteran with a sample copy of her international c.d.

Lon Swedberg, from the Swedberg Funeral Home in Shawano was also honored. Allan Caldwell remarked, "Lon has been in Shawano for 34 years, he studied at UW River Falls and the Wisconsin Institute of Mortuary Service. He follows in the family tradition. Lon took over Born Funeral Home about 9 years ago. Lon is being honored for services he has provided for years to our community, Match Wae-wae-nen." Lon stated, "I really would like to thank the veterans for making this the greatest place in the world to live." An honor song concluded the ceremony. It was announced that a traditional sweat lodge ceremony was to be held for anyone who wished to attend.

Saturday was a full day of drumming, singing, dancing and special events. Grand entry began at 1:00, with many drum groups present; host drum for the weekend was the Menominee's

Beaver Lodge. A special first time dance and eagle feather presentation was held for Presley O'Kimosh.

The Veterans of the Menominee Nation Princess Contest was held. All of the girls danced their best after an entire morning of interviewing for the title. The runner up was Miss Brianna Ninham, who was presented with a bouquet of wild flowers. The new reigning Menominee Veterans princess for 2005-2006 is Miss Kristin Waukau. Kristin received a newly beaded crown, a sash, honorary Veterans of the Menominee Nation jacket and a bouquet of roses. Princess Kristin is a jingle dress dancer as well as a student at Menominee Indian High School. A huge honor song was held for her and Brianna, which included all of the contestants. Each one did an exceptional job.

There was a special jingle dress dance for the Red Lake Nation in Minnesota. The announcer said, "Our prayers go out to the parents and grandparents of Red Lake Nation." The special dance was for healing and collective prayers to help Red Lake rebound from their recent heartbreak. It was a very special and moving dance.

Davey Jean O'Kimosh Reiter and Rhonda Potts were honored during the powwow. They were honored for helping so much in the community. The two elders were escorted around the dance circle, surrounded by family and friends.

The Kitson family as well as the Richmond family were honored by the Menominee veterans. They had 8 brothers in WWII and some in the Korean Conflict. The families have been actively involved in events of war and have always volunteered. The Menominee Veterans presented their significant jackets to a member of each family. The Kitson family members are; Robert, a U.S. Marine who was wounded in Sipan, Russel U.S. Army, Floyd, U.S. Army, Ronald, U.S. Air Force, Thomas, U.S. Navy and Neil, U.S. Navy who was killed in action in the South Pacific during WWII and buried at Sea. The Richmond family members were Clarence, U.S. Army, Ralph, U.S. Army, Alvin, U.S. Army, Gordon, U.S. Army, Henry, U.S. Coast Guard and Harvey, U.S. Army. Lawrence "Sonny" Richmond spoke on behalf of the families he said, "We are all first cousins, we have common ancestors. Native Americans are the first warriors. We come from a long line of warriors. We are all related to Chief Waukechon. The Kitson family is all related to Iometah. Iometah was in the war of 1812. Our ancestors made a sacred pact with the pipe. Our grandfathers agreed to stand by these people. Our families have always volunteered for active duty keeping our grandfathers word. My cousins, Ralph Richmond was shot down in Europe and my cousin, Neil Kitson was killed in action, 1944. We still have family members today keeping our grandfathers word."

The highlight of the day was the honoring of the Menominee who are currently serving or have served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The "Freedom Fighters" were honored with a very special tee-shirt designed by the Menominee Veterans Association and given a sacred eagle feather. Some young veterans were present who have honorably completed their tenure with the United States Armed forces. The military service men and women who could not be there because they are over seas were represented by family members. Wives, parents, brothers, sisters, cousins, anyone who could accept on behalf of a soldier came down from the audience. It was a very powerful and overwhelming moment. Applause, cheers and drum beats echoed everywhere. One and all stood up as they had their special honor dance. This was their special day.

After the 7:00 p.m. grand entry, Kaylene O'Kimosh, the outgoing princess sponsored a trophy dance. 1st place winner, Mariah Webster, 2nd place, Apollonia Gomez, 3rd place, Lariah Peters.

To conclude the evening was the Veterans Snake Dance. The veterans dance with the flags. The leader of this dance was veteran Albany Potts. The legend of the Veteran Snake Dance is you never leave one behind, you take them with you. The enemy could be hidden

anywhere. The enemy could attack at anytime on their way in. Guns are shot off by the veterans to scare away the enemy and protect the soldiers. They all make it back to the base safe, the flags are now retreated and the dance ends.

Sunday was a day full of dancing, honor ceremonies and a huge give away by the Veterans of the Menominee Nation.

Myron Pyawasit spoke on behalf of Marie Wilber, for her first pow-wow as a jingle dress dancer. He explained the purpose and etiquette of a jingle dress dancer. She is the daughter of Warren and Myrna Wilber Jr.

The head female dancer was Vannie Wheelock, she had a special and the Veterans honored Jonathan Wilber. Jonathan's sister Debra DeLeon, excepted his recognition on his behalf.

A special dance contest was held for both female and male head dancers for next years Veterans Pow-wow. In the women's contest first place was won by Pamela Jo Waukau and the runner up was Marci Hawpetoss. The first place male was Shawn Barnes. There was no runner up.

To end the day the flags were lowered and danced out. The outgoing princess Kaylene O'Kimosh and her family provided a traveling feast for everyone present.

It was the most awesome event in the Menominee Woodland Bowl and it was hosted by the Veterans of the Menominee Nation.

### **Shooting continued from front page**

Seymour is being charged with illegally shooting a firearm and attempted murder. The information received about the incident was that Menominee Tribal Deputy, Louis Moses, responded to a burglar alarm that was set off at a home on the Menominee Indian Reservation. When Moses arrived at the scene, he then saw Seymour standing on the road. Moses attempted to approach him, but Seymour quickly dashed into the woods. Moses called for back up and pursued along with his canine. It is alleged that Seymour then revealed his firearm and shot at Moses twice, missing him with the first shot and hitting him in the chest with the second. Luckily Moses was wearing his protective vest, which most likely saved his life, but the bullet did leave a welt.

A press conference was held at the Menominee Tribal County Courts in Keshena WI, relating to the shooting. Menominee County Sheriff, Bryan 'Sid' Lepscier, was the speaker at the press conference. At the time of the press conference deputies did not know who the man they were looking for was. Sheriff Lepscier at the that time could not give details about the incident.

Seymour is also being held custody related to a separate charge of second-degree sexual assault of a child. A \$100,000 cash bond was set for the sexual assault charge. Seymour's preliminary hearing for the federal charges is scheduled for June 9, 2005.

### **Skinkis continued from front page**

After the shootings, Skinkis allegedly stole Sam Warpinski's vehicle and brought it to the Menominee Indian Reservation where he burnt the van. The Menominee Tribal Police found the burnt van and later determined the van belonged to Sam Warpinski. A call was placed to a family member of the to let them know about the van. The family member then went to Warpinski's apartment and found the two men shot and called 911.

Skinkis also allegedly fired shots near some people walking down the street by the Schuldes

Sports Center in Green Bay earlier that morning.

Skinkis was arrested Sunday, May 22, 2005 while walking on the Menominee Indian Reservation after a disturbance at a house party. He is also suspected of damaging several vehicles at a house party. He was arrested by Menominee Tribal police for separate charges. Cody Skinkis was released from Menominee Tribal jail on Wednesday, June 1, 2005 and returned to Brown County to face charges for killing one man and wounding another man in Green Bay on May 21.

Cody Skinkis made his first court appearance on June 2, 2005 in Brown County Court for shooting David LaCount to death and wounding Sam Warpinski at their residence on May 21. He is being held on a \$1 million bail at the Brown County Jail.

Skinkis' next court day is set for June 7, 2005.

### **Class of '05 continued from front page**

Indian School Board President gave some greetings on behalf of the board. He talked about the Class of 2005 had many firsts in high school history. Some of the members of this graduating class were some of the members of the basketball team. "They were first to go as far as they did in the Conference and we are proud of them." He also said, "Another first was the sports team stopped in McDonald's in Antigo. One of the ladies behind the counter asked where is your team from? She said, I'd like to compliment you, we have a lot of teams and a lot of groups come through and you're probably one if not the best behaved students that came through these doors." That just shows our athletes, our students are proud to represent the Menominee Indian School District." A first is that all of the graduating class voted for a lock in this year" Mr. Martin had the class hold out their hands and then give themselves a pat on the back. He also had the audience call out their graduates name. The audience raised the roof.

Superintendent Wendell Waukau gave remarks, the first thing he jokingly said, "Sorry Graduates I can't have you hold your hands out, I didn't bring my wallet." He seriously said, "I consider it a privilege and an honor to speak at your graduation ceremony tonight. To the parents, grandparents, other family members and friends in the audience I know that you can be very proud of your graduate, and I know that you are." We have a great high school and school district and it's been that way for 29 years. There are many Menominee people that have graduated from here, MISD and have gone on to be very successful in life." Mr. Waukau stated many professions by MIHS alumni. He continued, "The Class of 2005 is no exception they will add to this list to make our country, our state, our community a better place." and "I have been privileged to work in this district for 16 years." Mr. Waukau said, "Graduates tonight I chose to speak about you. Throughout your life you have been taught by your parents, families, elders and teachers, administrators, school board officials, about the importance of core values. The values are respect, love, humility, honesty, bravery, and wisdom. In many Native American cultures these values are referred to as the seven grandfather teachings. These values guide our lives and shape who we are as people." and "Tonight we need to take time to acknowledge that you applied what you have learned over the years. Deciding as a class to attend an all night chemical free party on a night when your family friends and teachers and community worry about you the most. You are telling us we don't have to worry because you are showing wisdom and respect for yourselves and the community."

Student speaker Michael Waupoose spoke on behalf of the graduating class. He started by thanking the teachers and staff, "Thank you because you had faith in us when we didn't."

Mike continued, "The four years that we were here seems like a blur, but we did not let it pass us by. While we were here, we experienced many highs and many lows, lots of tears and lots of laughter." "We learned how to help each other when needed, we learned how to stick together because if we didn't, high school would have been impossible. The most important of all is that we learned how to take care of each other" Mike also said, "While attending here we suffered through the loss of four of our friends. Two of which were our class mates. They are gone but will never be forgotten. We were able to get by those sad times because we had each other. To make each other laugh to hold each other when times were tough and to walk hand in hand to our goal." In closing, "We know that one day we will be able to take care of this tribe. I know we will be ready."

Willard Waupoose read the poem, "I Am The Drum." Willard spoke, "In death people take with them the wisdom of centuries. Let us survive for our own people, so that they may live on, with a desire to create beauty. The people who chose tradition and history our thoughts are preserved in the ritual of poetry, song and art." Willard was accompanied by Bryant Doud on the hand drum and Keno Quaz Cloud, female singer, who both sang a traditional song while Willard recited. They paid tribute to the drum.

The keynote speaker was James Washinawatok. James is a 1995 graduate from Menominee Indian High School and a 2003 graduate from the U.W. Madison Law School. Mr. Washinawatok served as an intern for the National Congress of American Indians and worked part time for the law firm of Hobbs and Strauss. Two weeks ago James earned his Master of Law Degree in Indigenous Peoples Law from the University of Arizona in Tucson. James recently took a position with a well established law firm in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He is the son of Regina Washinawatok and grandson of Gwen and the late James Washinawatok. James started by quoting "Ghandi" about positive thoughts and positive behavior. He said, "If you graduates doubt the effectiveness of Ghandi's quote, simply remind yourself that you are all examples of how positive thoughts became your destiny by graduating from high school. Perhaps you are not aware that high school rates of graduation for Native Americans are below the state and national average. The statistics for Menominee County indicate that 78% graduate high school whereas 85% graduate from the state of Wisconsin and 80% from the country. The very fact that you are here tonight therefore demonstrates your perseverance against major odds. Maintaining positive thoughts such as finishing school has actually led you to do so." James went on to speak honestly about his personal struggles and how he over came them, positively. In his closing comments he said, "The one thing I hope you take away from my speech tonight graduates is that you all realize that you have the power to chose a better life for yourself." and "For me the tragic kidnapping and killing of my aunt Ingrid demonstrated just how quickly our lives can end. My aunt's death caused me to ponder the possibility of my own death. I realized that there were some changes I wanted to make in my life. If there are changes in your life that you seek, let the shortness of life serve as your inspiration to change. Were it not with the support of my family members both past and present, such as my grandfather, aunt Ingrid, brothers Daniel and Meyakenew, my nephews Dan and Brad, my niece Aregina, and of course my mother and my grandmother, I would not have achieved what I had. Mom, I will never forget your sacrifice to raise three boys, without their fathers. Which reminded me that the sacrifice I had to make to finish law school was a small price to pay." In closing, "I would like to close with the same passage by Ghandi that I began with. Keep your thoughts positive because positive thoughts become your words. Keep your words positive because positive words become your behavior. Keep your behavior positive because positive behavior becomes your habits. Keep your habits positive because positive habits become your values. Keep your values positive because positive values become your destiny."

The Scholarship award winners were announced by the Dean of Students Ms. Leslie Shawanokasic. The scholarships are as follows:

The Veterans of the Menominee Nation Scholarship-Jamie L.Gauthier

The American Legion Post #497 Scholarship – Jamie L. Gauthier

The Libby Martin Memorial Scholarship – Reynold F. Gauthier

The Menominee Eagles Scholarship – Bridget M. House

The Joe G. Waukechon Memorial Scholarship – Meyakenew Kakkak

The Legend Lake Property Owners Scholarship – Nicolette D. Kinepoway

The Menominee Tribal Clinic Scholarship – Sherri L. Lyons

The Menominee Teachers Associate Gift Scholarship #1 – Michael Waupoose

The Menominee Teachers Associate Gift Scholarship #2 – Alexandra R. Maulson

The Fanny LeMay Memorial Scholarship – Alexandra R. Maulson

The Silas H. Shepard Lodge Scholarship – Danima T. Stewart

The Steve and Nancy Thompson Scholarship-Fern E. Pyawasit

The Nick Dodge Memorial Scholarship-Joe Waupekenay

The Ben Miller Memorial Scholarship-Danima T. Stewart

The Menominee Casino Scholarship-Alan D. Waukau

The Mitchell Tepiew Memorial Scholarship-Joseph A. Waupekenay

The Henry M. Dodge Memorial Scholarship-Michael D. Waupoose

The Menominee Casino Scholarship-Willard G. Waupoose Jr.

The State of Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholar-Jamie L. Gauthier

JAMIE L. GAUTHIER IS HEREBY RECOGNIZED BY GOVERNOR JIM DOYLE AND THE WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE. THEY OFFER BOTH THEIR CONGRATULATIONS AND A SCHOLARSHIP IN RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

The Class of 2005 Salutatorian is Jazmen J. Peters

A highlight of graduation was the baby/senior picture slide show. The crowd went wild with laughter, screams, applause and many were very surprised by the before and after looks of the senior class. The music for the slide show was “Any Color You Like” by Pink Floyd. The last frames of the slide show said, “Remembering” as the Class of 2005 could not graduate without including two students who they lost along the way. This was Aaron Shegonee and Marvin Pamonicutt. The last picture was the entire class.

The awarding of the diplomas was very emotional, the Menominee Indian High School echoed with applause as each student walked across the stage and turned the tassel. Many audience members ran up in front to take that once in a life time “snapshot.”

Principal Chuck Raasch presented the “Class of 2005.” The class had an honor song by the High School Drum, Young Chiefs. The graduation hats were tossed high, a balloon drop into the audience and the song began, “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough” by Diana Ross. Each student was given a red flower as the recessional began. A reception was held in the school commons, cake and fruit punch, cameras flashing, hugs, tears and laughter ended a great evening.

2005 Menominee Indian High School Graduates

Gordon A. Alegria, Frankie J. Allery, Alinda M. Basina, Mowa-sa Beauprey, Robert J.

Caldwell, Kylene S. Denny, Tamerin E. Dickenson, Mitchell M. Dixon, Richard A. Dodge,

James M. Floring, Jamie L. Gauthier, Reynold F. Gauthier, Jessica L. Hebb, Bridget M.

House, Dennison J. James, George F. Johnson, Meyakenew Kakkak, Craig O. Kaquatosh,

Lisa M. Kelley, Nicolette D. Kinepoway, Sherri L. Lyons, Noelle A. Madosh, Alexandra R.

Maulson, Erin L. Nacotee, John B. Nahwahquaw, Alina M. Olson, Stacey A. Pamonicutt, Kyle

J. Penass, James A. Peters, Jazmen J. Peters, Richard L. Peters, Robert M. Peters, Fawn M.

Pyawasit, Fern E. Pyawasit, Muriel L. Reiter, Stacy S. Smith, Jeffrey S. Spruce, Dania T. Stewart, Loni M. Tepiew, Lewis L. Thunder, P-ne-ci A. Thunder, Shawwahossoway L. Wahsquonaikeshik, Alan D. Waukau, Joseph A. Waupekenay, Michael D. Waupoose, Willard G. Waupoose, Jr., Kallie R. Wayka, Paul J. Wayka, Melissa M. Wescott, Charmaine L. White, Matilda T. Zhuckkahosee.

Menominee Nation News would like to say, "Congratulations Graduates and Good Luck!!"